Elimination of child labour

981. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are committed to eliminate child labour in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the action plan to tackle this complex socio-economic problem and the number of child labour likely to be benefited; and

(c) the total number of child labour in the country and to what extent country has been able to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Child Labour Policy has been framed to eliminate child labour in the country. The action plan comprises of legislative measures, general development programmes for benefiting children and a project-based action plan in areas of high concentration of child labour. The Government of India has taken up the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 270 districts for the elimination of child labour in hazardous sectors by the end of the Tenth Plan.

(c) Authentic figures on the number of working children in the country are generated during the decennial census. As per the 2001 census, the number of working children in the country is 1.259 crore (provisional). Through the implementation of NCLPs in the country, about 4.16 lakh children have been covered under this scheme.

Social Security for unorganised sector

982. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Social Security Scheme for the unorganised sector was launched in January, 2004;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the estimated number of workers in the unorganised sector in the country;

(d) whether Government propose to review the question of contribution by workers towards the Scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Unorganised Sector Workers Social Security Scheme, 2004 envisages the benefits of old age pension, health insurance and personal accident insurance cover. The scheme is available to the unorganized workers including self-employment workers drawing pay/ wages/income not more than Rs. 6500/- p.m. To avail benefits under the scheme, there is a single contribution @ Rs. 50/- p.m. from the workers joining the scheme in the age group of 18-35 years and Rs. 100/- p.m. from the workers in the age group of 36-50 years. The contribution from the employers wherever identifiable in both the categories is @ 100/- p.m. The Government's contribution is Rs. 250/- per annum *i.e.* 1.16% of the monthly wages of the workers based on the national minimum floor level wage as fixed by the Central Government from time to time.

(c) According to survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1999-2000, the total employment in the unorganized sector is 36.9 crore.

(d) and (e) There is a provision for comprehensive review of the scheme including workers' contribution, etc. by the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Unemployment problem in Jammu and Kashmir

983. SHRI T. S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for resolving the unemployment problem in Jammu and Kashmir during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;